

Holy Cross Church Binsted Parochial Church Council

Minutes of the meeting held on 24th January 2022 at 2.00p.m.

at the home of Yann and Hannah Dubreuil, The Vicarage, Binsted

Those present: Yann Dubreuil: [Chairman]; Stella Croom-Johnson: [Deputy Chairman and Church Warden]; Christopher Ogilvie Thompson [Assistant Priest]; Kathy Ogilvie Thompson [Churchwarden]; Liz Carey – [Assistant Churchwarden] Andrew Croom-Johnson [Treasurer]; Angela Dunne [Secretary]; Kay Hunter Johnston; Cathie Weldon; Piers Wilson; Pam Smith

1	Welcome and opening Prayer Yann opened the meeting with a prayer
2	Apologies LC arrived at 3.35pm
3	Minutes of the meeting held on 8. 11. 2021 Approved and signed by YD
4	Matters Arising [other than those specified below] 13.1 Church Keyboard and new cables [i]YD highlighted the need to purchase a new multi core box and new cables which will greatly improve the sound quality of the digital piano keyboard. The estimated cost is £220. In addition, it was proposed by KOT and seconded by SCJ that Binsted PCC buy the electronic keyboard that Bentley Church will be selling in the near future. This keyboard is very heavy to move around and about the Church and the Church Hall in Bentley, therefore it is necessary for them to purchase an electrical keyboard which is more portable. The estimated cost to Binsted to buy Bentley's second-hand organ is £900. There is money available in the music restricted fund to purchase it. All agreed. ACTION: YD Andrew HJ and Sam Ball ACTION: KOT to communicate with the Boswoods' regarding the existing electronic organ. [ii] SCJ stated that the area where the electronic keyboard is positioned is very cramped and not very safe to play as the existing platform is too small. After some discussion it was agreed that SCJ should contact the DAC to ask whether a temporary faculty would be sufficient to allow the removal of the two front pews on this side or whether a full faculty would be required. It was felt there would not be enough room to extend the platform. Therefore, this is the best option at the moment because this area might be affected by the eventual location of the proposed new toilets and no decision has been made about this yet. ACTION: SCJ 13.3 KOT reminded PCC members to send her a photograph of themselves so that she can update the "Who is Who" notice board. ACTION: PCC members

	<p>9.2 ACTION for SCJ carried forward – to contact Kingsley Tree Care and Hampshire Tree and Gardens for quotes to assess the safety of the trees in the Church yard.</p>
5	<p>Yann’s departure and preparation for the Interregnum - YD temporary left the meeting</p> <p>[a] A draft copy of the new Parish Profile was distributed to each PCC member. Two dates were proposed for a joint PCC meeting to be held, either Thursday 27th January or Tuesday 1st February to discuss and ratify the document. However, PCC members were asked to read the document and send any comments to Steve Fice. KOT will liaise with Steve Fice regarding the date and availability of PCC members. Thanks were given to CW who is Binsted’s representative on the working party. The working party have compiled the Parish Profile very quickly over the past few weeks.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ACTION: KOT</p> <p>[b] YD returned to the meeting. ACJ asked. “Who signs the annual accounts after Yann has left?” YD said that it may be the Area Dean or a Churchwarden, but he will find out and report back.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ACTION: YD</p> <p>[b] It is necessary to have a representative from each Church to be on the interviewing panel for a new Rector. PS nominated CW and AD seconded this. However, KOT also thought LC may also like to take on the role. She said that she thought we all should have time to think and pray about it and to ask for God’s guidance.</p>
6	<p>Pastoral Re-organisation and Single Parish and PCC formation update</p> <p>YD stated that there were three stages of the process. Firstly, the informal stage with talks and presentations to PCC’s and the wider congregation, then a formal draft scheme written by the DMPC and finally the implementation stage. He said that the consultation period of the formal draft scheme is six weeks. After amendments are made by the Church commissioners there is a public consultation to the wider village community and views are sent to the Bishop. Unfortunately, there is a hold up in the process at the present time because, although the current three Churches in the Benefice have completed stage one, representatives of Kingsley and Oakhanger had not been included. Therefore, the Arch Deacon is arranging for meetings to take place in the near future. Hopefully when these have taken place, stage two can begin and the process can move forward. One of the first actions of the newly formed Single PCC will be to sort out the details of how the Single Parish will work in practice.</p>
7	<p>Finance</p> <p>7.1 Report from Treasurer</p> <p>ACJ had sent out a copy of an analysis of income and expenditure for the period 1st January 2021 to 31st December 2021. A copy of which is in the minute file. He had invited questions regarding the accounts prior to the meeting which he would answer in person at this meeting.</p> <p>ACJ then highlighted the following points :-</p> <p>[a] there had been donations of £5,000 to the designated general fund 2, £1,000 donation to the Churchyard fund, £1,000 for the Re-ordering fund and £100 for the music fund.</p> <p>[b] loose plate collections were similar to last year. [for our information, he stated that in 2019, before the pandemic, plate collections totalled £3,000 compared to just over £1,000 over the past two years].</p> <p>[c] There was an administrative error. Froyle had paid Binsted by mistake, instead of Bentley, therefore there is the transfer of money from Binsted to Bentley.</p>

	<p>[d] The cost shown for Fetes and Events was a late payment from the previous year. In addition, this year's Christmas cards sales were lower than last year, hence the payment for producing more cards in the previous year was higher.</p> <p>[e] The parish share total this year will be £29,000. Last year a reduced amount was paid due to the effects of the pandemic.</p> <p>[f] There would be a transfer of £10,000 from the general fund 2 to help replenish the payment made for the new boiler that has been installed.</p> <p>YD thanked ACJ for his hard work throughout the year. KOT commented that a deficit of only £900 is good under the circumstances.</p> <p>7.2 Fundraising</p> <p>SCJ reported that as the faculty for the Quinquennial work was granted in early January, the main focus now is to raise the money for the work to be done and to apply for grants. She stated that there was a fundraising calendar on the web site and she encouraged everyone to look at this. However, there is now another urgent need to raise money for repairs to the stained glass east window. The approximate cost is £13,000. It was suggested and agreed that people could be invited to sponsor individual pains of stain glass as a way of raising money. There was also some discussion regarding setting up a Friends of Binsted Church which has been considered at previous meetings. KHJ offered to look into this, however, YD stated that there may be difficulty in organising this with the new single parish being established in the near future.</p>
8	<p>Feedback on recent events in 2021</p> <p>8.1 Remembrance Sunday – 14th November 2021 – this took place outside and was well attended</p> <p>8.2 Advent Calendar Project – AD co-ordinated the village residents who took part. Most of the displays were made by the residents themselves this year. Kathleen Digby made the design for the New Binsted Inn and PW's family made one for No.2 The Kilns. YD mentioned that the more elaborate designs should be promoted on FB or in the Parish magazine and that if the project was repeated next year a map could be produced, which showed where the windows were located in the village and perhaps produce an Advent Trail. AD said that this was a good idea, but she would need others to help her with this idea.</p> <p>8.3 Christmas fair – 4th December – this was a tremendous success. Using both the Church and the Wickham Institute to host the different stalls worked very well and this will be repeated next year. AD gave thanks to Dennis Smith [who was Father Christmas] as he saw a record number of children in Santa's grotto. AD said that the grotto organised by FOBS benefitted the Christmas fair as lots of families came and a record amount of money was taken by the stall holders.</p> <p>8.4 The Real Nativity Service – due to the increase in Covid cases there was a disappointing turn out. However, it was an atmospheric service using equipment lent to the church for free which included lighting and a subwoofer to improve the sound.</p>

	<p>8.5 Carol singing in the village – This worked well and the singing finished at the Binsted Inn. Ideas for next year were suggested, i.e. borrowing Froyle village’s sleigh, having Father Christmas and going from house to house in the village who may be having a small party.</p>
9	<p>Planning ahead</p> <p>9.1 Planting the Jubilee tree – the Rowan sapling tree has been bought and SCJ has obtained the Arch Deacons permission to plant it along with a plaque. The tree will have deer protection around it. There will be a little planting ceremony on Wednesday 2nd March during the coffee shop morning.</p> <p>9.2 Ash Wednesday – 2nd March – COT reported that as Froyle Church is closed due to renovation work, the service will take place in Binsted Church at 7p.m. This is a service for the whole Benefice and beyond.</p> <p>9.3 Lent – KOT stated that she would like to re-introduce lent lunches this year. These would take place on a Thursday. She asked for people to let her know if they would like to host a lunch in their homes and on which date and for general offers of help. She will advertise the dates and locations in the parish magazine. ACTION: KOT</p> <p>9.4 Easter</p> <p>[i] Fundraising Egg Decorating – SCJ suggested an egg decorating event. However, AD said that the school might be doing a similar thing. AD will liaise with the school and FOBS and SCJ. ACTION: AD</p> <p>[ii] Passover meal – COT is organising and awaiting confirmation if Froyle will be hosting this Benefice event. A musician for the evening is still being sought.</p> <p>[iii] Good Friday – a meditation service led by Steve Fice in Binsted Church</p> <p>[iv] Easter Sunday – led by COT</p> <p>9.5 Queen’s Platinum Celebrations – The Parish Council has invited members of the village community to attend a zoom meeting to discuss and plan events. This is taking place on Tuesday 8th February 6.30pm-7.15pm. PCC members were encouraged to attend the zoom meeting.</p> <p>Flower Festival 10-12 June AD reported that the theme for the flower festival has changed to reflect the Queen’s Platinum celebration. Sam Barrow is leading the project. There is a meeting in the Church at 11.00pm 26th January to begin to discuss details. However, a lot of volunteers would be needed to come forward to help with stewarding, refreshments etc. It is envisaged a concert would take place over the weekend too. PS asked that although there is a small amount of money available for flowers and expenses, would the PCC agree for a loan to be transferred into the flower funds? This would then be returned from the profit made. SB is proposing to hold an Easter workshop on how to make handheld bouquets and AD is hoping to organise one or two line-dancing evenings. All profits will go towards the purchase of flowers for the festival displays.</p>
10	<p>Fabric Report – SCJ had sent a copy of her report via email prior to the meeting. A copy of this is in the minute file. YD thanked SCJ for all her hard work in organising the installation of a new boiler. This has required many hours of work.</p>

	<p>Unfortunately, SCJ's report highlighted the issue of woodworm in the Church. There is evidence of it in the Westcote Chapel, and the main body of the Church. SCJ is going to seek professional advice and a quotation of the cost to treat the woodworm. Meanwhile there is a need to have a clear out in the Westcote Chapel and the Vestry. A working party was suggested for a Spring clean. This could be combined with a churchyard working party and SCJ suggested that the day could end with a social event.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ACTION: SCJ & KOT</p>
11.	<p>Re-ordering Project Update – the proposed date in December to meet with representatives from the Diocese [to discuss possible locations for new toilets] was cancelled due to an increase in Covid cases at that time. A new date has been arranged for 10th February, but this is now in doubt due to a funeral taking place on that day. However, a new time to meet on that day may still be possible.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ACTION: KOT</p>
12	<p>AOB</p> <p>12.1 Bishop's Commission for Mission [BCM] – YD stated that it is a requirement for people who have volunteered to lead formal services to be authorised by the PCC and attend a course organised by the Archdeacon. The following people were requesting authorization, Cathie Weldon, Susan Bourne [pastoral care course] Nick Carter, Kathy Ogilvie Thompson [worship training]. Proposed SCJ Seconded AD. All agreed.</p> <p>12.2 War Graves notice – The PCC ratified the decision taken by email to allow the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to install the smaller of their two signs on the masonry of the gate pillar to the main entrance to the Churchyard. This was unanimously agreed. ACTION SCJ: to reply to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission authorizing them to proceed with installing the sign.</p> <p>12.3 Churchwarden – KOT stated that she is not seeking re-election as Churchwarden at the next APCM in April. She has been Churchwarden for six years. YD thanked KOT for her excellent service over this time. He said that when the single parish is in existence only one Churchwarden from Binsted Church will be required, however, in the meantime SCJ and LC will need another volunteer. The vacant position will be advertised. ACTION:</p> <p>12.4 YD stated that there is the possibility for the Benefice to purchase the mowers he has bought to mow the Vicarage grounds. It was discussed that the robot mower would be useful to mow the grass once Yann and his family have left the Vicarage, however there is also the possibility that James or volunteers might be able to do the work. ACTION: Rectors Council to find out the cost of purchasing the robot and explore the other suggestions.</p>
13	<p>Dates and venues of next meeting in 2022</p> <p>Extra joint PCC meeting - Thursday 26th January or Tuesday 1st February – Section 11 meeting to ratify the Parish Profile and select representatives for the appointment panel</p> <p>Joint PCC meeting – 14th February – 8pm in Bentley Church Hall – the date will be changed due to it being Valentines day ACTION: YD and admin team</p>

	<p>PCC meetings March 21st; June 20th; September 26th; November 7th</p> <p>APCM 24th April 2022 ACTION: SCJ to check when the notification notice has to be put on the porch notice board and NC to check the electoral roll details.</p>
14	<p>YD thanked PCC members for their support and hardwork and said that, “it was a privilege to serve with us. “He said that,” amazing things had happened and people have come to faith.”</p> <p>Closing Prayer</p> <p>YD closed his final Binsted PCC meeting with a prayer</p> <p>The meeting closed at 4.30p.m.</p>